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Remarks

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the attention accorded to the instant application. Claims 173-174 have been canceled, and claim 175 has been amended. In light of the present amendment and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn with respect to claims 175-185 and 191.

The Examiner has variously rejected all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, a single source must contain all of the elements of the claim. *Lewmar Marine Inc. v. Barient, Inc.*, 827 F.2d 744, 747, 3 U.S.P.Q.2d 1766, 1768 (Fed. Cir. 1987), *cert. denied*, 484 U.S. 1007 (1988).

Regarding the rejection of claim 175 based on Cheng, it is respectfully submitted that claim 175 as amended is substantially different the system therein. Cheng does not provide the ability to simultaneously present a plurality of the game clients with the same set of data at the same time. The Examiner has maintained the rejections of claims 179-185 and 191 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schneier et al U.S. Patent No. 5,970,143. Regarding the rejection of claims 179 and 182-184 (and dependant claims 180, 181, 185), it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention is not anticipated by Schneier et al. Each and every element of the claims is not disclosed in Schneier et al.

It is respectfully submitted that Schneier does not present a method for globally synchronized contests as provided in claims 179 et seq. as previously amended. Schneier discloses a computer device and method for encoding a message corresponding to an outcome of a computer game, and a computer device and method for decoding the message to detect a fraudulent outcome. However, no system or method is provided therein for "enabling a contestant to compete against many other contestants, in a secure and fundamentally fair time-

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constrained contest, over the Internet, wherein each contestant is provided with a common 'start-time' regardless of the location of his or her client machine on the infrastructure of the Internet, for the type of interconnection provided thereto" as in claim 179.

The Examiner maintains the assertion that Schneier anticipates claim 179, e.g., in that the features of "presenting the query to the contestant precisely at the start-time, as determined by a local clock that is characterized with respect to a global master clock located on the primary server" is disclosed at column 33, lines 12-23. . However, as disclosed therein, Schneier teaches a start message being obtained by a user, the start message incorporating a timing element to be made "'time-limited' (i.e., valid for some predetermined period of time). This functionality is related to limiting a user's ability to access the game, rather than synchronize a common start time.

Further, the Examiner has maintained citation of col. 39, l. 38-53, and 52-65, wherein operation of tournament races of skill are described. However, while a system is disclosed for starting at a designated start time, and transmitting the results in an encoded protocol as described therein, there is no functionality for "characterizing the client machine's local clock with the master clock on the primary server, and synchronizing of the client machine display update cycle with the desired start-time for the contest" disclosed. Therefore, there is no assurance in Schneier that each participant will have the same start time.

Similarly, regarding the rejection of claim 191, it is respectfully submitted that the start time element, and its use as being associated with each query, and storage within the client machine, as claimed therein, is not anticipated by Schneier, wherein start messages valid for a period of time are described (e.g., at col. 32, l. 65 – col. 33, l. 29). No method is disclosed in

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Schneier to download a start time to a client machine – rather, a start message is downloaded and a time limit is placed on the usage of the game.

The amendments herein do not introduce any new matter. It is believed that the claims herein should be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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